

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method for maintaining a license repository, comprising:
 maintaining a number of entities in the license repository in a server,
 the number entities including a number of licensors and a number of licensees;
 generating a number of licenses between respective pairs of the
 licensees and the licensors based upon an input from at least one of the licensees
10 and the licensors, respectively; and
 maintaining the licenses in the license repository.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining the number of
 entities in the license repository in the server further comprises maintaining a profile
 for each of the entities, each of the profiles including point of contact for at least
 one of the entities in the license repository.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the number of
 licenses between respective pairs of the licensees and the licensors based upon
 the input from the at least one of the licensees and the licensors, further comprises:
 generating a first one of the licenses based upon a unilateral input by
 a first one of the entities; and
25 notifying a second one of the entities that is party to the first one of
 the licenses of the creation of the first one of the licenses.

30 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a confirmation
 status of at least one of the licenses in the license repository.

5. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
modifying a first one of the profiles in the license repository based
upon a modification input received from a first one of the entities; and
notifying a second one of the entities that is party to one of the
5 licenses with the first one of the entities of the modifying of the first one of the
profiles.

6. The method of claim 4, further comprising updating the confirmation
10 status of the at least one of the licenses based upon a confirmation status input
received from one of the entities.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a number of
15 license products associated with at least one of the licensors in the license
repository.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising including an additional one
20 of the number of license products in the license repository based upon a license
product input from the at least one of the licensors.

9. A program embodied on a computer-readable medium for maintaining
25 a license repository, comprising:
code that maintains a number of entities in the license repository, the
number entities including a number of licensors and a number of licensees;
code that generates a number of licenses between respective pairs of
30 the licensees and the licensors based upon an input from at least one of the
licensees and the licensors, respectively; and
code that maintains the licenses in the license repository.

10. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein code that maintains the number of entities in the license repository in the server further comprises code that maintains a profile for each of the entities, each of the profiles including point of contact for at least one of the entities in the license
5 repository.

11. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the code that generates the number of licenses between respective pairs
10 of the licensees and the licensors based upon the input from the at least one of the licensees and the licensors, further comprises:
code that generates a first one of the licenses based upon a unilateral input by a first one of the entities; and
code that notifies a second one of the entities that is party to the first one of the licenses of the creation of the first one of the licenses.

12. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 9, further comprising code that maintains a confirmation status of at least one of the licenses in the license repository.
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13. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 10, further comprising:
25 code that modifies a first one of the profiles in the license repository based upon a modification input received from a first one of the entities; and
code that notifies a second one of the entities that is party to one of the licenses with the first one of the entities of the modifying of the first one of the profiles.
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14. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 12, further comprising code that updates the confirmation status of the at least one of the licenses based upon a confirmation status input received from one of the entities.

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15. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 9, further comprising code that maintains a number of license products associated with at least one of the licensors in the license repository.

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16. The program embodied on a computer-readable medium of claim 15, further comprising code that includes an additional one of the number of license products in the license repository based upon a license product input from the at least one of the licensors.

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17. A system for maintaining a license repository, comprising:
means for maintaining a number of entities in the license repository in a server, the number entities including a number of licensors and a number of licensees;
means for generating a number of licenses between respective pairs of the licensees and the licensors based upon an input from at least one of the licensees and the licensors, respectively; and
means for maintaining the licenses in the license repository.

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18. The system of claim 17, wherein the means for maintaining the number of entities in the license repository in the server further comprises means for maintaining a profile for each of the entities, each of the profiles including point of contact for at least one of the entities in the license repository.

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19. The system of claim 17, wherein the means for generating the number of licenses between respective pairs of the licensees and the licensors based upon the input from the at least one of the licensees and the licensors, further comprises:

5 means for generating a first one of the licenses based upon a unilateral input by a first one of the entities; and

means for notifying a second one of the entities that is party to the first one of the licenses of the creation of the first one of the licenses.

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20. The system of claim 17, further comprising means for maintaining a confirmation status of at least one of the licenses in the license repository.

15 21. The system of claim 17, further comprising means for maintaining a number of license products associated with at least one of the licensors in the license repository.

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22. The system of claim 18, further comprising:

means for modifying a first one of the profiles in the license repository based upon a modification input received from a first one of the entities; and

means for notifying a second one of the entities that is party to one of the licenses with the first one of the entities of the modifying of the first one of the profiles.

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23. The system of claim 20, further comprising means for updating the confirmation status of the at least one of the licenses based upon a confirmation status input received from one of the entities.

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24. The system of claim 21, further comprising means for including an additional one of the number of license products in the license repository based upon a license product input from the at least one of the licensors.

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